

With the President's Compliments.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

MARCH 25TH, 1907.

BY

SIR R. DOUGLAS POWELL, BART., K.C.V.O., M.D.,

HON. M.D. DUBLIN; LL.D. ABERD.; HON. FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND; KNIGHT OF GRACE OF THE
ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

PRESIDENT.

LONDON:

HARRISON AND SONS, ST. MARTIN'S LANE,
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IN the review I have now to make of the past year, the 388th year of the College, there are but few events to which I need refer at any length.

The number of Fellows in the College Roll on January 1st was 330 ; of Members, 453 ; of Licentiates, 10,669, and there were still remaining 4 of the old order of "extra-urban" Licentiates.

We have lost 12 Fellows by death, 11 Members and 75 Licentiates. Twelve Members have been admitted to the Fellowship, and 13 Licentiates have become Members. There has been an addition of 432 Licentiates to the College List. Whilst the Fellowship therefore remains the same, the Members have decreased by 5 in number, and the Licentiates have increased by 342.

Royal Honours and Distinctions.

I have to offer the congratulations of the College to certain of our Fellows, Members, and Licentiates, upon whom His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer honours in the past year.

Charles Theodore Williams, M.D., a fellow of the College, appointed a Member of the Victorian Order on the occasion of His Majesty opening the King Edward VIIth Sanatorium for Consumption, at Midhurst, on June 13th, 1906.

Percival Horton-Smith Hartley, M.D., a Fellow of the College, on the same occasion appointed a Member of the Victorian Order.

On the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday, November 9th, 1906, the honour of Knighthood was conferred upon John Tweedy, F.R.C.S., a Licentiate of the College (1872), lately President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England; and

Upon Robert William Bryce, M.B., London, a Licentiate of the College (1888), and Holt Professor of Pathology in the University of Liverpool.

Upon the same occasion, Alfred Downing Fripp, C.V.O., C.B., F.R.C.S., a Licentiate of the College (1889), Surgeon in Ordinary to the King, and Surgeon to Guy's Hospital, was promoted a Knight Commander of the Victorian Order; and

Wilfred Thomason Grenfell, a Licentiate of the College (1888), Superintendent of the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, was created a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Medals and Scholarships.

Your President, in conjunction with the President of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Director of the Medical Department of the Navy, awarded the Gilbert Blane Medals, presented biennially at the Admiralty to the two Surgeons who have kept the best scientific and professional journals since the last award, to Staff-Surgeon J. W. W. Stanton, R.N., of the Cruiser "Suffolk," and to Surgeon Bernard Ley, R.N.

The Moxon Gold Medal, which is given annually to the person who is deemed to have most distinguished himself by observation and research in Clinical Medicine, was awarded by the Council to Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., sometime President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, as having pre-eminently so distinguished himself. Mr. Hutchinson was presented with the Medal by the President after the Harveian Oration on St. Luke's Day, 1906.

The Charles Murchison Scholarship, awarded alternately by this College and the University of Edinburgh to Senior Students, for distinction in Clinical Medicine, was presented to Henry Francis Bell Walker, M.B. Lond., of Guy's Hospital.

The Jenks Memorial Scholarship, founded in memory of George Samuel Jenks, M.D., a former Fellow, is a Student's Scholarship of the value of £27 per annum for five years, which is awarded annually, by this College and the Royal College of Surgeons alternately, with a preference to pupils from Epsom College; this was assigned by the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons to Godfrey Alan Walker, formerly of Epsom College, and now of the London Hospital.

The Harveian Oration was delivered on St. Luke's Day by William Osler, M.D., Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford. Dr. Osler gave an eloquent address "On the Growth of Truth," and illustrated his subject by an account of the development of Medical Science under the inspiring genius and work of Harvey, who, co-ordinating the science of his time, evolved a new departure which was destined to stimulate research in Medicine through all time.

The Croonian Lectures were delivered in June last by Dr. W. R. Rivers, on "The Action of Drugs on Fatigue," and illustrated once more how much may be done by careful observation and clinical experience in testing the influence of drugs upon the human subject, apart from experiments upon the lower animals.

The Fitz-Patrick Lectures on the History of Medicine were given in November by Dr. Norman Moore, on "The History of the study of Clinical Medicine in the British Islands." Dealing chiefly with the 17th and 18th centuries, Dr. Moore described the clinical observations of Mayerne, Glisson, and Sydenham, and maintained that while clinical medicine in England owed its origin to the studies of the Renaissance, in Scotland it was mainly to be traced to the teachings of Boerhaave.

The Bradshaw Lecture was given in November by Dr. Seymour J. Sharkey, on "Rectal Alimentation," in which the literature and clinical experience with regard to that method of feeding were fully discussed.

The Horace Dobell Lecture, also in November, was delivered by Dr. F. W. Andrewes on the "Evolution of the Streptococci." Dr. Andrewes in his interesting and suggestive lecture endeavoured to trace the evolution of bacterial organisms—

taking the streptococci for illustration, from their original position of harmless mineral feeders, through the phase of saprophytes in the intestinal canal, to the less aggressive forms, active only under the weakened resistance of terminal diseased states, and finally arriving at the most fully developed aggressiveness of the parasitic forms as exemplified in the *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

The Milroy Lectures, in February, by Dr. Leonard Rogers, dealt with the subject of "Kala Azar, its Differentiation and its Epidemiology." Dr. Leonard Rogers spoke of the epidemic which, for the last 30 years, has spread up the Assam Valley, devastating, with a mortality of 75 to 98 per cent., whole villages, and putting them out of cultivation. He described the parasite, and regarded the infection as lingering in houses rather than communicated directly from person to person.

The Goulstonian Lectures were delivered in the present month by Dr. E. Farquhar Buzzard on "Certain Acute Infective or Toxic Conditions of the Nervous System." Dr. Buzzard discussed the minute pathology of these conditions and traced the extension of the lesions in the spinal cord in some cases to lymphatic, in others to vascular, conveyance of micro-organisms not yet well determined.

Dr. G. H. Savage gave the Lumleian Lectures on "Insanity, its Causes and Increase." Listening to these interesting and graphic lectures, one felt that one might paraphrase Malvolio, and say that some are born insane—imbeciles, some neurotics, epileptic and the morally insane; some achieve insanity—through drink, syphilis, the abuse of drugs and other bad habits of life; and some have madness thrust upon them—by association, or dazed by the glitter or obsessed by the difficulties of their environment. The learned lecturer discussed the present and future outlook of insanity from his own large experience of that disease.

Gifts to the College.

The College has acquired some valuable gifts in the course of the year. On April 9th, Mr. Thomas Edgar Williams, A.R.I.B.A., of Victoria Street, Westminster, offered for the acceptance of the College a photographic reproduction of a profile drawing

of his father, the late Dr. Robert Williams, a Fellow of the College from 1817 to 1845 who was a Censor and an Elect.

In October, Thomas Hodgkin, Esq., D.C.L., of Barmoor Castle, Northumberland, presented a photo-engraving from a painting by Levigne, of his uncle the late Thomas Hodgkin, M.D., of Guy's Hospital, a Licentiate of the College, who first recognised and described the disease known by his name.

The Library has been enriched by many gifts, 481 books having been presented; of these, the Treasurer, Sir Dyce Duckworth, has presented 50 volumes of old medical books, pamphlets, and reports. Dr. Osler has given some rare and curious works: amongst them *The Introduction to Anatomy* of Berengarius Carpus, 1523, and an English translation by Nahum Tate, of Fracastorius' poem on "Syphilis," 1692. Sir H. Vansittart Neale has, through the Assistant-Registrar, Dr. Oswald Browne, presented, amongst other works, an edition of Mead's *Medica Sacra*. Mr. Fleming has presented *Sir Henry Holland's Travels* and some 17th century medical works not previously in the Library. Surgeon-General Beatson, Dr. Colman, Dr. Cullingworth, Dr. Frank, Dr. de Havilland Hall, Dr. E. T. Wilson, Mr. H. L. Eason, and the Harveian Librarian have also presented the Library with interesting and valuable old books.

More than 30 specimens of autographs of deceased Fellows have been presented by Sir Dyce Duckworth and others, and the College will be very glad to receive further contributions of these interesting mementoes. Two bookcases have been placed in the Reading Room, part of the bequest of the late Mrs. Bezley.

For all these gifts the College is deeply grateful.

A number of duplicate volumes were presented by the College, through Dr. Osler, to the Johns Hopkins Hospital Library and were gratefully appreciated by our American confrères.

A committee was appointed at a Meeting of the College on January 31st last, upon the motion of Dr. Norman Moore, to consider the question of the publication of Harvey's manuscript, *De musculis*, in the same form as his *Prelectiones Anatomicæ Universales*, published by the College in 1886.

I would here wish to express the appreciation by the College of the Harveian Librarian's unceasing watchfulness and efforts in maintaining and improving the Library. Dr. Payne has inaugurated at the quarterly dinners of the Fellows' Club, which are held in the College, the exhibition of some of the College Library Treasures, which are very interesting to the Fellows who attend those dinners and render them more familiar with our possessions, whilst affording also an interesting opportunity for mingling of the Fellows in conversation after the quarterly dinners. With more near acquaintance ever comes that better fellowship enjoined by Harvey, and Dr. Payne's exhibits, with his genial presence and exposition, thus help on the cause.

During the Presidential year from April 9th, 1906, to March 24th, 1907, we have lost by death 9 Fellows, of each of whom it is my duty to give an obituary record, viz. :—

DR. HENRY FREDERICK AUGUSTUS GOODRIDGE died at Weston-super-Mare on Friday, March 9th, 1906, from bronchitis and failure of heart, in his 83rd year.

Dr. Goodridge was born in Bathwick Parish, Bath, May 19th, 1823. He came of an old Devonshire family, inheriting his coat of arms from one Nicholas Goodridge, Mayor of Totnes, to whom it was granted by Queen Elizabeth for contributing guns to Drake's Fleet against the Armada. His great-great-grandfather gained distinction on the Royalist side in the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion. His father was a Fellow of the Institute of Architects, of much distinction in his profession. His mother was descended on the maternal side from Dr. John Radcliffe, of Oxford.

Educated at Mill Hill School, Goodridge was in his 17th year apprenticed to Mr. Henry Gore, of Bath. He matriculated at the University of London, and entered at University College Hospital in 1842, studied there under Quain, Sharpey, Liston, and Williams, and took the Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1845, and an honours degree, M.B. London, in 1846. He then studied for two years in Paris, and graduated M.D. in London.

He commenced practice with an appointment at the Eastern Infirmary, Bath, and in 1852 was elected Physician to the Royal United Hospital. He became a Member of this College in 1860, and a Fellow in 1874. He was for 40 years attached to the Royal United Hospital, and when Senior Physician, in 1876, he was elected President of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association.

He married, in 1854, the elder daughter of the Rev. Charles Taylor, formerly Rector of a parish in Somersetshire. There were two sons, the elder of whom, a barrister, predeceased his father; the younger, Dr. W. Lisle Goodridge, formerly in practice at Windsor, has taken up the Public Health Department of Medicine.

Dr. Goodridge was a high-minded man with a strong sense of the duties and the dignity of his calling; respected and esteemed by his professional brethren, he was beloved by his hospital patients, for the relief of whom he zealously worked. He was in large practice and unremittingly devoted to his professional work. He suffered much from insomnia, and this, with a naturally reserved disposition, rendered him but little inclined, and with small reserve energies, for social life and amusements.

Dr. Goodridge kept himself abreast with advancing knowledge in medicine, but beyond two thoughtful addresses to the British Medical Association, and some papers on the "Pathology of Fevers," he did not contribute to medical literature.

SIR WILLOUGHBY FRANCIS WADE, M.D., was born at Bray, County Wicklow, in 1827. He came of an old Yorkshire family, and numbered amongst his ancestors the celebrated General Wade, some of whose highland roads are still to be discerned. Some of his family settled in Ireland in the time of Charles II.

Sir Willoughby was the son of the Rev. M. A. Wade, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Derby, and his mother was a daughter of Mr. Justice Fox, of the Irish Bench.

He was educated at Brighton, Rugby, and Trinity College,

Dublin, graduating in both Arts and Medicine at Dublin. He was apprenticed to Mr. Douglas Fox, of Derby, a brother of the engineer. His first appointment was that of House Physician to the Birmingham General Hospital, and it was in Birmingham that his professional life was spent. He became Physician successively to the Dispensary of the Queen's Hospital, 1860, and the General Hospital, 1865. He was Professor of Medicine at Queen's College, a post he relinquished soon after his appointment to the General Hospital. He remained Physician to the General Hospital until 1892, when he became Consulting Physician.

Sir Willoughby enjoyed a considerable consulting practice in Birmingham and the Midlands in later life, and was at one time or other President of most of the Medical Societies of the city.

He was a Justice of the Peace for the County of Warwick, and in 1896 he received the honour of Knighthood in acknowledgment of his professional position and of the public work he had accomplished in connection with the British Medical Association, of which he was successively Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. In his Presidential Address to the Association at Birmingham in 1890, he urged the importance of a revision of the preliminary education of Medical Students,* with a view to securing more time to scientific subjects, and, whilst by no means neglecting general literature, advocated a smaller share of time being given to the study of Latin. This address attracted considerable attention at the time, and Sir Willoughby's views were warmly supported by Professor Huxley in a letter to the *Times* (August 5th, 1890).

Sir Willoughby contributed several clinical papers to the Medical Journals, and one "On a Case of Aortic Aneurysm Communicating with the Pulmonary Artery recognised during Life by Physical Signs," to the *Transactions of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society*, 1861. Beyond these papers he added little to the literature of medicine, but he was known

* "On the Pretechnical Stages of Medical Education," *British Medical Journal*, August 2nd, 1890.

to be an accurate observer and a sound and accomplished physician. He was a man of fine presence and personal charm, a lucid but not a fluent speaker, and his speeches always carried weight from their sincerity and thoughtfulness.

As Chairman of the Scientific Grants Committee of the British Medical Association from 1880 to 1884, Sir Willoughby took, in 1883, a main part in instituting the scholarships of research of the annual value of £150, which have resulted in some valuable contributions to Medical Science by the Research Scholars.

After his retirement, at the age of 71, he spent the evening of his days in Italy; and to his villa near Florence congenial friends would resort, when in the neighbourhood, to enjoy his bright conversation on social and medical topics. He seems to have been an expert linguist, and he contributed some papers to the Italian Journals.

Sir Willoughby married, in 1880, his cousin, Augusta, daughter of Sir John Power, Bart., of Kilfane, who survives him. There were no children.

He died in Rome on May 28th, 1906.

JOHN HENRY BRYANT, M.D., was elected a Fellow of this College in 1901, and died at the early age of 38, after a short illness brought on by over work.

He was born in Ilminster, Somerset, the son of the late William Mead Bryant of that town.

His education commenced at the Grammar School of Ilminster, whence he proceeded to Sherborne, and he entered at Guy's Hospital in 1886, and had a distinguished student's career there, graduating M.D. of London in 1891, next taking the Conjoint Diploma and the Membership of this College in 1895, and Fellowship 1901.

Besides being a very hard worker, Mr. Bryant was a noted football player and general athlete, and his keenness and good-sportsman qualities gave him the highest position amongst his comrades, that of judge in their sports. The same qualities which built up his masterful character and power of work gave him a sympathetic control over students and patients.

He was an admirable teacher—exact, accurate, inspiring. He gained vast experience in those well-tilled fields of medical learning, the appointments of Registrar and Pathologist at Guy's, which occupied 10 years of his attachment to the Hospital, and in 1903, having been five years Assistant Physician, he became lecturer on Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

He wrote articles on "Electro-Therapeutics" in Hale White's work on *Therapeutics* and on "Diseases of the Abdominal Blood Vessels" in Allehin's *System of Medicine*. He also contributed many valuable papers to the *Guy's Hospital Reports*, of which he was Editor at the time of his death.

Dr. Bryant was essentially a modern physician, and his travelling bag was a regular armamentarium of modern weapons of clinical precision.

Taken from amongst us in the strenuous ardour of early professional life, he had already earned the good will of this College, and the promise of a distinguished career.

In his athletic build, his great power of work, and his close and painstaking regard for details in his work, he recalled to mind a former distinguished Fellow of this College who died in riper years, the late Dr. Sibson.

He married the daughter of Mr. Fry, of Norwood, who, with three children, survives him.

JOHN HENRY BRIDGES, B.A. and M.B. Oxon, was born at Old Newton, Suffolk, in October, 1832. He was the second son of the Rev. Charles Bridges, a well-known clergyman of the evangelical party and one of the Simeon Trustees of that time. His mother was a daughter of John Torlesse, Esq., of Stanmore, a retired Indian Judge. Educated at Rugby, when Dr. Tait was headmaster, Bridges was a school contemporary, and in close friendship with, the late Lord Goschen and Lord Davey. From Rugby he gained a scholarship at Wadham College, Oxford, in 1851. A wide and studious reader, he did not specialise in the subjects for the final schools, and graduated with only third class honours, to the grief of his friends, but later he retrieved his position by winning an open Fellowship

at Oriel College (1855). At Oxford he, with his two contemporaries, Mr. Frederic Harrison and Mr. E. S. Beesley, both of them to share with him future distinction, fell under the spell of Richard Congreve, Fellow and Tutor of Wadham College, the chief interpreter of the then recent philosophy of Auguste Comte. Already distinguished in literature, Bridges came to London to study Medicine at St. George's Hospital and took his M.B. degree in 1859. In the same year he became a Member of this College, and in company with our Registrar, Dr. Liveing, was in the first list of Members admitted to the College at the time of the institution of that order. He was elected a Fellow in 1867. In 1860 he married Susan, daughter of the Rev. C. M. Torlesse, Vicar of Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk, a first cousin, and went out to Melbourne to take up the appointment of Physician to the Infirmary, and with the intention of settling there in consulting practice; but his wife dying within the year, of enteric fever, he returned and settled in Bradford (1861), where he soon became Physician to the Infirmary. He was, however, more interested in public health than private practice and worked hard to bring about an improvement in the sanitation of Bradford, and especially in securing a better construction of artisan dwellings. In 1862 he published a lecture on "Health, with Remarks on the Death-rate of Bradford and other Towns."

In 1869 he married his second wife, a more distant cousin, Mary Alice, daughter of Mr. George Hadwen, of Halifax, who survives him. In this year, when engaged in investigating an outbreak of fever in Bradford, Dr. Bridges again came into communication with his friend of former days, Mr. Goschen, then in the Ministry, and through him was offered and accepted an appointment as one of the Inspectors under the Poor Law Board, now the Local Government Board, his work being more particularly directed to the supervision of factories, poor law infirmaries, and similar institutions.

There is no doubt that Dr. Bridges' work in the public offices which he held was of a high order and highly valued at headquarters. On his retirement, after 22 years of official life in London, from the Medical Inspectorship to the Local

Government Board, he was nominated by the President a Manager of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and he was at the same time presented with a valuable testimonial by the Inspectors with whom he had been associated.

The average man amongst us, however, knows little about these Boards, whose supervision of our comfort and welfare we should be grateful for, and Bridges was practically an unknown man in respect of the routine work of his life. It was as the ardent and brilliant advocate of a philosophy, perhaps even less understood by the multitude, that he became known, that he expended his scholarship, and that he was intellectually charming and personally interesting.

Dr. Bridges' first important essay, which won for him "the Arnold Historical Prize" at Oxford in 1856, was on "the Jews of Europe during the Middle Ages," which was printed in the *Oxford Essays* of 1857. His *France under Richelieu and Colbert*, written in 1866 whilst at Bradford, is still regarded as a valuable work, and gained for him distinction at the time. Whilst engaged in his official work in London, he continued his literary labours, mostly on political and historical subjects connected with his Comtist philosophy, in essays and articles scattered through positivist journals. He contributed also to more formal works. In *Two Centuries of Irish History*, by James Bryce, 1888, the section 1801 to 1829 is by Bridges; in Frederic Harrison's *New Calendar of Great Men*, many of the lives are also written by him.

In 1893, after his retirement from public life, he undertook a new sixth century edition of Roger Bacon's *Opus Majus*, which appeared in 1897, and which was followed by a third volume of amendments and additions in 1900. This work, his last important literary production, he dedicated to the College.

That Bridges was a learned man was manifest to anyone who spoke with him, and more evident to those who knew him; for his disposition, when not roused to aggressiveness by some real or fancied injustice to his fellow men, was gentle, modest, and retiring. His Fellowship of Oriel, the historic insight recognised by critics in his *France*, and his work on Roger

Bacon, bear permanent testimony to his literary capacity and elegance of style. Although deeply and widely read in science, he was yet essentially a man of letters rather than of scientific methods. He had no manipulative skill, and no experience in scientific research. His attitude on the vivisection controversy of his time, although broad minded and rational, was no doubt biassed by the limitations of his knowledge and experience in these respects. Many Fellows here will recollect his Harveian Oration, 1892, on "Harvey and his Successors," in which one may note the author reading Harvey's times and discovery of 300 years ago into terms of his own adopted philosophy of but half a century's date. He points to the first evolution of mechanical science, the employment of measure, the calculation of time, the use of experiment in appreciating observed facts in Physiology by Harvey and his contemporaries as marking the transition from the metaphysical to the positive methods of inquiry. And at the conclusion of his ingenious and subtle argument, he leads up to the view of a more complete positivism, a more perfect science of human nature which shall deal with human passions as, like subjective sensations, requiring to be recognised as functions of our organism, and to be taken into account, if not by scientific process, then by "wise empirical instinct."

It is, perhaps, to the able advocacy of its three apostles, Bridges and his two distinguished contemporaries, Mr. Frederic Harrison* and Professor Beesley, that the religious philosophy of Comte, which Huxley somewhat ruthlessly characterised as "Catholicism minus Christianity," owes such vitality as it still retains. Professor Huxley, after justifying his epigram in his usual trenchant manner, concludes by expressing regret if his remarks should lead any to suppose that he thought Comte's words worthless, or "that he did not heartily respect and sympathise with those who have been impelled by Comte to think deeply upon social problems and to strive nobly for social

* Mr. Harrison states that Bridges was the earliest of the group to adopt in its completeness the system of Auguste Comte, preceding his own adhesion by 10 years. *Positivist Review*, August, 1906, p. 184.

regeneration. It is," he adds, "the virtue of that impulse, I believe, which will save the name and fame of Comte from oblivion."*

Even so, our honoured Fellow advocated and adorned in his own personality, character, and example, the practical virtues upon which his philosophy was with great ingenuity engrafted.

Dr. Bridges died on June 15th, at the age of 73, at Tunbridge Wells, from an illness due to senile changes in the cerebral vessels which eventuated in hæmorrhage.

I append a list of Dr. Bridges' works, for the completeness of which, as for several other references in the life above sketched, I am indebted to his intimate friend, Dr. Liveing:—

At Oxford.

1857. "The Jews in Europe in the Middle Ages." (Arnold Historical Essay.)

At Bradford.

1862. "Lecture on Health: Mortality of Bradford and other Towns."
 1865. Translation of A. Comte's "General View of Positivism."
 1866. "France under Richelieu and Colbert."
 — "The Unity of Comte's Life and Doctrine." In reply to a Critic. (J. S. Mill.)
 1868. "Irish Disaffection." Four letters addressed to the Editor of the *Bradford Review*.

In London.

1870. "A Catechism of Health," adapted for Primary Schools. (Two editions.)
 — "Republic of the West." Papers on the War between France and Germany.
 1875. Translation of Comte's "System of Positive Polity."
 1879. "Religion and Progress." An address.
 1883. "Comte the Successor of Aristotle and St. Paul." A Discourse.
 — Five Discourses on Positive Religion.
 1884. "England and China," in Essays on International Policy. No. 5.
 1885. "Positivism in the Bible." Three lectures by J. H. B.
 1886. "The Home Rule Question Eighteen Years Ago."
 1888. "Two Centuries of Irish History," by James Bryce. Sections 1801—29 by J. H. B.
 1890. "Centenary of the French Revolution." Translated for the *Revue Occidentale*.

* *Lay Sermons VIII*, "The Scientific Aspects of Positivism."

In London.

- "New Calendar of Great Men." Edited by Fred. Harrison. Many written by J. H. B., *e.g.*, Confucius and the Fetishism of China; Moses and the Old Jewish Theocracy; Isaiah and Mahomet; St. Paul and Thomas Aquinas; Descartes, Hobbes, James Watt, Kepler, Galileo and Newton, etc.
1892. The Harveian Oration. "On Harvey and his Successors."
1897. The *Opus Majus* of Roger Bacon. By J. H. B. 2 vols. Clarendon Press, 1897.
1900. *Idem*. Vol. iii. William and Norgate, 1900.

By the death of JOHN CAMERON at the advanced age of 88, Liverpool has lost a much revered and popular physician, who joined this College as Member in 1859, and was elected Fellow in 1873. Dr. Cameron was born at Reigate, and spent much of his early life and school days in the Pyrenees. He studied medicine at Dublin and Glasgow, and took the Licence of the Royal College of Surgeons at Edinburgh in 1839, and the M.D. of Glasgow in 1843. Having thus extended his education over Great Britain and Ireland, he devoted its results to Liverpool, where he arrived in 1845, and was soon occupied with the terrible outbreak of typhus fever in 1847, which spread especially amongst the Irish immigrants driven to Liverpool by the Potato Famine of 1845, and which is said to have caused a mortality of 15,000. From this time he was one of the leading physicians at Liverpool, and was Physician to the Royal Southern Hospital from 1848 until his resignation and appointment as Consulting Physician in 1900. He was Lecturer on "Medical Jurisprudence" and, later on, the "Principles of Medicine," at the Royal Infirmary, and for more than 60 years a Member of the Liverpool Medical Institution. A great gathering assembled to congratulate him on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of his association with that Institution. Dr. Cameron was a man of tall, thin physique, of excitable Highland temperament, but with a reputation of the highest probity and honour in every relation of life, and punctilious in his professional relationship with his brethren. Although a shrewd clinical observer whose opinion was much valued, he has left no written records of his experiences.

He died unmarried on August 20th, 1906.

THOMAS HARRIS, M.D., London, a well-known Manchester physician, who died in early life, was the son of a gentleman farmer and Mary Tyrrell, his wife. He was born at Brewood, in Staffordshire. His student life was spent at the Manchester School of Medicine, where he gained nearly all the prizes of his time, and at Wurzburg. He took the M.B. of London with first-class honours in Physiology in 1878, and the M.D. in 1883 with honours qualifying for the Gold Medal in Medicine. He became Member of the Royal College of Surgeons and a Member of this College in 1881, and he was elected a Fellow in 1893.

Whilst holding the office of Pathological Registrar to the Royal Infirmary at Manchester, he wrote his *Post-mortem Handbook*. He held the offices of Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and to the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest and Throat, and he was Lecturer on "Chest Diseases" at the University. He became President successively of the Medical and Pathological Societies at Manchester.

Dr. Harris was a clear, earnest and popular lecturer, and his opinion as a consultant, especially in chest diseases, was in great request. His method of clinical teaching, described by his nephew in a memorial notice in the *Manchester Medical Gazette* for October, 1906, seems to me so good that I will briefly allude to it. He would have the patient's bed moved to the middle of the ward, and chairs for the students arranged around it. He would ask the patient "what he complained of?" and the answer would focus the clinical examination, which one of the students would be called upon to make under his direction as soon as the history and symptoms had been elicited. The class would then adjourn out of the patient's hearing, and each student would be asked for his diagnosis and the reason for it, the Physician finally giving his own opinion. The pathology, prognosis, and treatment would then be severally discussed. For a class of moderate size I cannot think of any method of teaching more admirable and more calculated to overcome that inertia and reticence of mind which are such impediments to clinical learning. His complete

knowledge of pathology rendered Dr. Harris's clinical teaching especially valuable.

His lectures on "Pathology and Diagnosis of Pulmonary Phthisis," 1887, and on "Pulsus Paradoxus" in 1889, were published in the *Lancet*. He also wrote a book on *Indurative Mediastino-Pericarditis*, his principal work.

Dr. Harris not infrequently attended the Meetings of the College, and his bright and cheery presence will be well remembered by many Fellows. He was a sportsman and a gardener, and a thoroughly good fellow in every relation of life. He married Isabella Maud, the third daughter of William Brockbank, of Manchester, who survives him with three daughters and a son.

He died at his country house at Oakley on September 8th, 1906, at the early age of 47, from an acute cerebral attack, attributed to fatigue and undue sun-exposure from a long September day's shooting. He was buried at the Friends' Burial Ground, Ashton-on-Mersey, having joined the Society of Friends shortly before his marriage.

GUSTAVE ISIDORE SCHORSTEIN, M.A. and M.D. Oxon., was a man of great force of character, a sound and good physician, whose loss to the Profession and to the Fellowship of this College at the early age of 40, is a real and deeply felt one. Of Austrian Jewish parentage, Schorstein was born in Paris, his parents soon after coming over to this country; he was educated at the City of London School, and promoted to Christchurch, Oxford, where he took a First Class in Honour Moderations, and a Second Class in the Final Honour Schools. After taking his Arts Degree in 1885, he remained for a year or two at Oxford, doing some tutorial work and also some more advanced work in Anatomy and Physiology, and graduated M.B. and B.Ch. in 1889. He became a Member of our College in 1891, and a Fellow in 1897, and took the M.D. of Oxford in 1904. He studied Medicine at the London Hospital, held two resident posts there and was appointed Assistant Physician in 1894, and full Physician in 1905. He was also Assistant Physician to the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest at

Brompton, and had earlier been attached in a similar capacity to the City of London Hospital for Chest Diseases. He lectured on Pathology and Public Health at the London Medical School.

Schorstein was familiar with many tongues, he had a cultivated ear and taste for music and was an eloquent and lucid lecturer and conversationalist. Perhaps the quality which most endeared Schorstein to his fellow men and would most certainly have secured to him great success in his profession, was his natural gift (for perhaps it cannot be acquired) of being in sympathetic touch with those with whom he came into professional or social communication. Animals and children felt this sympathy: it permeated his relationship in hospital work and at social gatherings. This gift—rare in its higher manifestation—when combined with clinical knowledge and experience, produces the finest type of physician, and without at least a modicum of it our calling is not well chosen.

Schorstein was not married. He had been in failing health since an obscure septic illness ten years ago, which left him with albuminuria. A long holiday seemed almost completely to restore him, but in 1899, glycosuria developed; nevertheless, he continued doing a large amount of work connected with his two Hospitals, until 12 months ago he began to fail rapidly with amaurosis and multiple neuritis, causing great distress, which he bore with philosophical resignation. He died in his faith, and was buried in the cemetery of the West London Synagogue, Golder's Green, in the presence of many friends on November 20th, 1906.

EDMUND SYMES THOMPSON was the third son of the late Theophilus Thompson, F.R.S., a Fellow of this College, and one of the Founders of the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton. His mother was a daughter of N. Wathen, Esq., of Gloucester.

He was educated at St. Paul's School, King's College, and King's College Hospital. He graduated in Medicine with honours at the University of London, M.B. in 1859 and M.D. the following year. He became a Member of the College in 1862 and a Fellow in 1868. In 1863, at the early age of 26,

he was appointed Assistant Physician to the Brompton Hospital, and in 1865 he relinquished the post of Assistant Physician to King's College Hospital and devoted himself to the Brompton Hospital, where he became full Physician in 1871, and Consulting Physician in 1889. In 1867, he was appointed Gresham Lecturer on Medicine, an appointment which he held for 40 years until his death.

Dr. Symes Thompson held also many minor appointments to charitable institutions, and was much interested in, and associated with, missionary work.

He edited his father's lectures on "Pulmonary Consumption," and also reproduced another work on *Influenza: an Historical Survey*. He was President of the Balneological and Climatological Society, and wrote articles on Climatology, a subject in which he was much interested. He had been President of the Harveian Society of London and Hon. Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. He was an authority on Life Assurance, having been for many years Medical Adviser to the Equity and Law Life Office.

Symes Thompson was of a religious bent of mind, he was reared in an atmosphere of religion and good works. When Provost of the Guild of St. Luke, he took a leading part in inaugurating the State Medical Service at St. Paul's on St. Luke's Day, or rather within the octave of that day, so as not to clash with our Harveian Festival. Of a restlessly active temperament, he was an indefatigable pedestrian, and was especially fond of excursions in Switzerland. A well informed man, and very apt in conversation, he excelled at social functions, but so restless was his mind in glancing from subject to subject—his reflex of association being ever hypersensitive—it required a considerable degree of mental agility to keep pace with him. He was a most facile lecturer and could bring down the most abstruse medical problems to the interested intelligence of his Gresham audiences. I knew Symes Thompson fairly intimately as a colleague and a friend, and I never remember him to have attributed an evil motive or to have used a depreciatory word with regard to anyone. He was in truth an optimist in all things and in his regard of all men.

He enjoyed a large practice and was a good and sympathetic physician. Perhaps there are few physicians who have done more to help poor gentlefolk than he. Dr. Symes Thompson married, in 1872, Elizabeth, second daughter of the Rev. H. S. Watkins, Vicar of Potters Bar, who survives him. There were four sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Dr. Harry E. Symes Thompson, is a Member of this College; the second, the Rev. F. Symes Thompson, is working in South Africa under the Bishop of Grahamstown; the third, Captain Howard Symes Thompson, is in the Royal Artillery; and Lieutenant Cholmeley Symes Thompson, in the 1st Grenadiers. A daughter is married to Dr. Lewis, a Licentiate of this College.

He died from cerebral hæmorrhage on November 24th, 1906, in his 69th year. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Page Roberts, in Vere Street Church, and was attended by many Fellows of this College. The burial was at Finnere Church, Bucks, near his country house.

ARTHUR ERNEST SANSOM, M.D., of London, was a very familiar figure at the College, of which he was made Fellow in 1878, and had held the office of Examiner for 7 years between 1889 and 1899, and Councillor for three years from 1897. He had retired from active practice owing to ill-health, and spent the last two or three years of his life at Hampstead and at Bournemouth, where he died on March 10th, in his 69th year.

Dr. Sansom was born at Corsham, Wiltshire: his father, a gentleman farmer, his mother, the descendant of a well-known divine, Dr. Isaac Barrow. He was educated at Queenwood College, Stockbridge, and by private tuition until, at the age of 16, he entered as Warneford Scholar, at King's College, and completed there his student's career whilst yet too young to take his diploma. He went to Paris and studied under Piorry, and returned to take his diplomas of M.R.C.S. and Licentiate of the Apothecaries' Company, in 1859. He, the same year, took the M.B. of London, and the M.D. in 1866, and the Membership of this College (1867). He became a Fellow of King's College in 1887.

Dr. Sansom held the post of Physician to the London

Hospital, the North-Eastern Hospital, and the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest. His earliest writings were on Chloroform (1865), and Anæsthetics in Obstetric Practice (1869), and he was, perhaps, the earliest physician in London to recognise the application of Pasteur's researches on Fermentation to Medicine, and to advocate the antiseptic methods of treatment deducible from them.*

His chief published work, however, was in connection with the Diseases of the Heart, on which he was a recognised authority. He delivered the Lettsonian Lectures† to the Medical Society on this subject, and wrote an important work on "Diseases of the Heart and Aorta."

Dr. Sansom was a very cultivated physician, and possessed an earnestness and sincerity of character which gained for him the respect and esteem of all his Fellows. He had a very logical order of mind, which sometimes gave a somewhat laboured and pedantic character to his speeches, which caused some good-natured amusement to his friends. He was very exact and painstaking in eliciting physical signs, and particularly in percussing out the position of the heart. He was also an adept with the sphygmograph and cardiograph.

Dr. Sansom married the daughter of Mr. Henry Weaver, of Devizes, who survives him, and had six children. One of his sons is in the Medical Profession, and one a Dental Surgeon. He held high rank in the Brotherhood of Freemasons.

Congresses—International and Home.

The College has, by invitation, sent Delegates to various Congresses and functions in the past year.

- (1) To the 50th Anniversary of Melbourne University,
Dr. Balls Headley, the senior Fellow in Melbourne.
- (2) Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Bristol,
July 9th to 14th. Sir George Hare Philipson, of

* Paper read before the Medical Society, "The Antiseptic System."

† "On the Treatment of some of the Forms of Valvular Disease of the Heart." He also published articles in Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*, Allbutt's *System*, *The Twentieth Century of Medicine*, and many others.

Newcastle, and Dr. Handfield, of Nottingham, were delegated.

- (3) International Congress of Medicine at Lisbon. Sir Dyce Duckworth was appointed, on the nomination of the College, to represent His Majesty's Government at the Congress.
- (4) Quatercentenary of the University of Aberdeen, September 24th, 1906, on which occasion the King was present and opened the new University Building. Your President attended and presented an address of congratulation from the College to the University of Aberdeen. The honour of the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the University on the occasion.

Communications with Departments of State.

Privy Council. Lunacy.—At a Meeting of the College on May 10th, 1906, Dr. Mercier moved a resolution that, "In the opinion of this College the number of Commissioners in Lunacy is inadequate, and ought to be increased forthwith; and this opinion should be communicated to the Lord Chancellor and the Government." The motion was seconded by Dr. Percy Smith, and after some discussion the first part of the motion was accepted. To the second part an amendment was proposed by Dr. Norman Moore and accepted by Dr. Mercier and carried, "That a Committee be appointed to consider and report to the next Comitia on the best way of approaching the Government on the subject and on the statement which should be submitted." The President, at the request of the College, nominated Dr. Payne, Dr. Sidney Coupland, Dr. N. Moore, Dr. Savage, the Right Hon. Sir Walter Foster, M.P., Dr. Percy Smith, Dr. Mercier, with himself, to form the Committee. The Committee held two Meetings and reported to the College on July 26th. I. "That the increase in the number of insane patients is such that the Committee have reason to think that some reorganisation and augmentation of the authority dealing with lunacy is urgently needed." II. "That the President be authorised and requested to take such steps as may seem to

him appropriate to bring the opinion of the Committee to the notice of the Lord Chancellor."

In answer to a letter from the President representing the urgent need of a small provisional increase of the Commissioners, pending more comprehensive legislation, the Lord Chancellor had expressed concurrence in the view of the College, but feared that there was no way of remedy except by legislation. The question was subsequently embodied in the reference to the Royal Commission on the Feeble Minded, the report of which has not yet been issued.

India Office. Plague.—It will be remembered that in 1905 a standing Committee was appointed on Plague, an epidemic of which was then raging in the northern provinces of India. Mr. St. John Brodrick, then Secretary of State, was approached by a deputation consisting of the Members of the Committee.* At a Meeting of the Committee in July, 1906, a remarkable decline in the Plague mortality was reported, but at a later Meeting in November a report was received from one of its members, Dr. Simpson, of a visit which he had paid to Poona, where he had found a severe outbreak of Plague, with very inadequate measures for its control. The report was forwarded to Mr. Morley, the Secretary of State, and met with a courteous reply, and the College is awaiting a promised further communication.

Royal Commission on Vivisection.—The College did not see its way, in response to an invitation from the Physiological Society on June 28th, 1906, to appoint representatives upon a Committee to watch proceedings in connection with the appointment of a Royal Commission on Vivisection. It was felt that the College would probably be duly represented on the Commission.

At a later Meeting of the College (October 20th), your President was able to state that Sir William Church had been appointed a Member of the Royal Commission, and that it had been decided to invite the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of England, Scotland, and Ireland to send represen-

* See last Presidential Address, 1906 p. 8

tatives to give evidence before them. The President and Dr. Taylor were requested by the College, on the motion of Dr. Ferrier, seconded by the Senior Censor, to represent the College on this occasion. Your President and Dr. Taylor accordingly drew up the following Memorandum of the evidence they were prepared to give, and appeared before the Commission on March 4th.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Necessity of Continuing the Practice of Experiments upon Living Animals, for the Advance of Medical Knowledge in the Causation, Pathology, Prevention, and Treatment of Disease in Man and Animals.

(1) The Discovery of the Circulation of the Blood; the demonstration of the lacteal and lymphatic systems of vessels; the demonstration of sensory and motor nerve roots and fibres, and the discovery and application of anæsthetics, are fundamental results of experimental inquiry which dominate knowledge and practice in Medicine for all time. Their importance and the means by which they were ascertained are fully admitted in the Report of the last Royal Commission (1876), and we only now draw attention to them because of their intimate and essential connection with every subsequent phase of progress in Medical Science. It is true that, in the case of anæsthetics, the animal chosen, in the first instance, for experiment, was man himself, but in further experiments the lower animals have been largely used, and exclusively so in regard to subsequent discoveries of general and local anæsthetics and soporifics (*e.g.*, nitrous oxide gas, cocaine, chloral).

(2) The Science of Bacteriology, which has arisen since the date of the last Royal Commission on Vivisection, has been indeed fruitful, directly and indirectly, in the saving of human and animal life and the mitigation of human and animal suffering. The bacterial origin of tubercle, anthrax, diphtheria, erysipelas, septicæmia, pyæmia, typhoid, malaria, influenza, tetanus, pneumonia, plague, and other diseases has been demonstrated within this period.

(3) Each discovery has involved the infinite labour of (*a*) seeking for the microbe in the blood or discharges of the patient; (*b*) cultivating it in appropriate media outside the body; (*c*) reproducing the disease in animals by injections of the pure culture; (*d*) recovering again the identical microbe from their tissues.

(4) The antiseptic methods first adopted in Surgery by Professor, now Lord, Lister, which have saved many hundred thousand lives throughout the civilised world, and which have lessened human and animal suffering by many millions of hours, were based upon the application of Pasteur's researches in fermentation, and verified and developed through experiments upon living animals.

(5) This antiseptic system dominates the treatment of a great and an increasing number of internal and external (medical) diseases as well as all injuries and surgical wounds.

(6) The recognition of the exact bacterial nature of the specific fevers has resulted in more precise and efficient measures for their prevention; and it has been found that by inoculating animals with these poison-microbes, immunity can be established in them; and the serum taken from such immunised animals has proved curative or preventive of some of the corresponding diseases when occurring in the human subject.

(7) Thus Behring's anti-diphtheritic serum has reduced the mortality of the most dreaded and fatal disease of our time (diphtheria) from 29 per cent. to 8 per cent. of the cases. The preparation of this serum is from the horse, and its testing and standardisation are effected by the inoculation of guinea-pigs. The sum of pain produced in a thousand of these animals is as nothing compared with the sufferings of one case of fatal diphtheria. For it may be generally stated that the vast majority of experiments concerned with the ætiology of specific diseases and their treatment by antitoxins and sera consist of inoculations which are almost painless, and are therefore authorised by the Act under Certificate A.

The Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons for many years undertook the preparation and standardisation in their

laboratories of the diphtheria antitoxins used for the Asylum Board Institutions of the metropolis, and dispensed to the public by many of the great London chemists. They have relinquished this duty, since the process has become so definite and safe in other hands that the security of the public has been assured.

(8) Similar but less striking and less well-known instances of preventive and curative treatment might be given with regard to tetanus, plague, snake poison, enteric fever; and the list is yearly being added to by the constant labours of bacteriologists.

(9) An enormous amount of animal life and suffering has been saved by the use of antitoxins in anthrax and swine fever, and in other diseases of similarly specific nature affecting the lower animals.

(10) The safe and profitable use of drugs can only be secured by a thorough knowledge of their physiological properties, and this can only be acquired by experiments upon living animals (*digitalis*, *supra-renal extract*, *chloral*, and others).

(11) The pathology of cretinism, the nature and treatment of myxoedema; the recognition of the value in the human economy of secretions absorbed from ductless and other glands, and the use of their active principles in practical medicine are further most important additions to the resources of the physician in the treatment of patients, which have been made mainly through experiments in the laboratory within recent times.

(12) We would remark that, from our large experience of abdominal sections and other severe operations in the human subject, we are convinced that, with the antiseptic and anæsthetic methods of the present day, which render such operations possible and painless, the sufferings after the operation and during the process of recovery are quite trivial. And this remark applies with at least equal force to similar operations on animals. It has, moreover, been repeatedly observed in the human subject, in cases where internal cavities such as the bladder, the gall-bladder, the pleura, the stomach, have

been left with fistulous openings for the use of injections or the escape of discharges, that such cavities are but little sensitive. In the classical case of Alexis St. Martin, who, from a gunshot injury, had his stomach permanently laid open, repeated experimental use of varying food, drugs, and foreign bodies were made without suffering or impairment of his general well being. Such operations upon animals for purposes of research are not very numerous, and are of far-reaching importance in elucidating the functions of organs, in guiding the proceedings of operative surgery and increasing the accuracy of medical diagnosis.

(13) We are of opinion that experiments provided for under Certificate C are necessary for the demonstration to students of the fundamental principles of physiology in its application to practical medicine.

(14) We would, in conclusion, say, on the part of the whole medical profession, that we have no less regard and sympathy for suffering animals than others, nor any less urgent desire to spare them so far as is compatible with the larger claims of humanity. We are, however, from the nature of our calling, impressed in greater degree than others by daily witnessing the sufferings of our own kind from disease; and we claim for these human sufferers as great or greater sympathy. We are, indeed, of opinion that even painful investigations amongst the lower animals are thus completely justified.

We would point out that whilst the pain inflicted on animals under experiment has been greatly exaggerated, the amount of life saved and suffering spared, even to them, through knowledge gained by experiment, has more than compensated for that sacrifice.

R. DOUGLAS POWELL.
FREDERICK TAYLOR.

Anthropological Institute.—It was not considered by the College desirable to accept the invitation of the Anthropological Institute on June 28th, to take part in a deputation to the Prime Minister to urge upon him the institution of a National Anthropometric Survey, as recommended by the

Inter-departmental Committee on Physical Degeneration. This decision, to courteously decline the invitation, was arrived at in view of the fact that the College had already, two years previously, in reply to an application from the Privy Council for their opinion, reported in favour of instituting a National survey.*

General Medical Council—Committee of Management.

Reports from a Committee of the General Medical Council, forwarded for the information of the College, and of a College Committee on the same subject, viz., on the curriculum in Midwifery and Diseases of Women, have been simultaneously before the College in the past few months; and in a Report from the Committee of Management, to which the Report of the College was referred, authority was asked to ascertain the views of the Medical Schools as to the practicability of its recommendation. Further mention of the subject may, therefore, be deferred.

Dr. Norman Moore was, on May 10th, re-elected to represent the College upon the General Medical Council for a further period of five years.

On June 28th, Dr. Theodore Dyke Acland was appointed the first assessor to the Examinations of the Egyptian School of Medicine, to be held in December last.

On the recommendation of the Committee of Management, the College, on December 13th, 1906, adopted Regulations respecting the appointment and duties of the Assessors of the Royal Colleges at the Examinations of the London School of Tropical Medicine for certificates of proficiency.

College Committees.

Bye-Laws.—The Committee appointed October 26th, 1905, to revise the Bye-laws and Regulations of the College, the last Edition (1892) being out of print, presented their Report on April 9th, 1906, which was adopted, and the Bye-laws and Regulations were finally enacted on May 10th, 1906, but the

* See Presidential Address by Sir William Church, 1905, p. 28.

printing has been delayed pending the final report on the Midwifery Curriculum.

Nomenclature of Diseases.

The Decennial Revision (1906) of the Nomenclature of Diseases has been completed, and on July 26th, at a Meeting of the College, the Chairman, Dr. Pye-Smith, expressed his acknowledgment of the assistance given by the Representatives of the Government Departments, and by many professional and scientific men, not Fellows or Members of the College, in the preparation of the work, and particularly to Dr. Ormerod, the Secretary of the Committee and Editor.

The thanks of the College were most cordially accorded to Dr. Pye-Smith and to Dr. Ormerod, and an honorarium was awarded to Dr. Ormerod of two hundred guineas for his services. The services of the other Members of the Committee, not Fellows or Members of the College, were also gratefully acknowledged, and an honorarium of ten guineas each was granted to the revisers of the Latin and French portion of the nomenclature who were not Fellows or Members, and a special vote of thanks to Dr. Bertram Abrahams, who is a Fellow of the College, for his valuable services in relation to the German portion.

Finance.

I have some difficulty in representing to you the financial position of the College at the present time. As regards the College's proper affairs and business, it is satisfactory, and it has been so in recent years. There was a balance of £1,102, shown in the Balance Sheet at the end of the financial year in October, but there has been no sufficient margin for investment since the last Financial Report.

On the other hand, the conjoint financial position of the Royal Colleges becomes less and less satisfactory.

In the first place, there has been a decrease of £674 in fees owing to a decrease in the number of entries for the Licentiate examination. This decrease was more or less anticipated, and

has been going on for some years, and has, it may be hoped, now about reached its limit. Thus in 1888 to 1891, with an entry of 946 candidates, the united gross annual income of the Royal Colleges reached £34,000, but during the last five years the entries have averaged 587 and the joint gross income has diminished to £22,000. The main reason for this diminution is a diminution of students entering the profession. No doubt an increase of Universities in the Kingdom, with a continued disappointment in regard to the hoped for facilities for enabling London students to obtain as easily as elsewhere an M.D. degree, is a further peril to our examinations; but it does not appear to have been a factor in the diminution here referred to, for, throughout, the Colleges appear to have received at the final examination the same proportion of fees from those registered as medical students as before. Expenses, except in the item of examiners' fees, have increased from an increase of Rates, Taxes, and Insurance and extraordinary expenditure on repairs, and the general result is that the net income divisible between the two Colleges has diminished from £9,303 in 1902 to £6,356 in 1906.

In the heyday of their wealth, the Royal Colleges launched an enterprise of benevolent ambition—the Embankment Buildings—to accommodate their examination requirements, and beyond that to furnish laboratories for research work free of expense and for controlling and standardising vaccines and anti-toxin remedies. This involved large capital outlay, and a ground rental beyond their ordinary requirements. In the course of years, the main reasons for the extra accommodation required for research and standardisation laboratories have lapsed with the development of other suitable institutions, and the Colleges, with their diminished income, have become no longer able to continue to endow research work. The extra rooms, although hitherto let at a remunerative rental—thanks to the business talents and devotion of their Secretary, Mr. Hallett—remain, therefore, a somewhat anxious and hazardous burden on their hands, and one quite outside the scope of their normal concerns. After much and anxious consideration by several committees of the two Colleges of all the details which I have thus endea-

voured to summarise, it has been decided, if possible, to find more suitable premises for the more exclusive purposes of the Colleges. It must be admitted that the Colleges have at least expended their resources for a noble purpose—the public welfare, by securing public confidence, at a somewhat critical time, in one of the most important methods of modern times of saving life and mitigating suffering, and by encouragement of research work for the advance of Medical Science—so that when they retire from the position, it will be not without honour.

There is one remark, however, that I should like to be permitted to make whilst on this subject of finance. I think a great opportunity has been missed for achieving what should be one of the most worthy objects of this College, and that is to unite in closer bonds of good feeling all the holders of College Diplomas. We examine our Members and Licentiates and let them go, and seldom afterwards do we show any consciousness of their existence, save in the annual selection for the Fellowship or in the rare event of some misdeed on the part of one of their number calling for inquiry or censure. I take it that it would be at least a worthy function of this College to show some hospitable recognition of our Diplomates, and to give them an occasional opportunity to view the College and the treasures we possess. Unfortunately, we have not the necessary funds beyond those required for the primary duties of the College. I am not unhopeful, however, that the time may come when a separate fund may be earmarked for this purpose, a purpose which Harvey had much at heart and deemed worthy of his Burmarsh bequest. It is to be hoped that many more names may yet be recorded in future Harveian orations amongst the benefactors of the College, and that some of them may be connected with this especial object. Other powerful bodies have arisen since this College was founded, and especially in the last century, and it is well that the College should have the sympathy and support of its whole constituency—which includes the bulk of the medical profession—in the maintenance of its prestige, which, I believe, was never higher than at the present time.

Mr. Hallett's Statement of the Financial Outlook.

1. The income of the Conjoint Board from examination fees has declined steadily from £30,700 in 1891, to £22,300 in 1905, a difference of over £8,000 per annum, in spite of an increase of five guineas in the fee for the Licence of the Royal College of Physicians.

2. The estimated average income of the Board from examination fees for the next five years is £18,000, *i.e.*, the income will decline from £22,000 to about £16,000.

3. It is anticipated that the income will improve from this last-named figure, but it is not probable that it will approach anything like the income of 15 years ago.

4. The receipts from letting of rooms has increased from £1,166 in 1891, to £3,250 in 1905.

5. The balance of receipt over all expenses has varied between £5,400 and £9,300 during the last 15 years, after including the receipts from hire of rooms.

6. The receipts for hire of rooms cannot be maintained, and certainly not increased, without very considerable expenditure on alterations, and even if this expenditure be authorised, the increased rental from lettings must always be an uncertain receipt.

7. The Royal Colleges are now paying, annually, £4,530 for ground rent, rates, taxes, and insurance, on a building which is half as large again as is required for examination purposes, and if half this sum is allocated to the examinations, there remains the sum of £2,265, which represents an entirely unnecessary payment now that the laboratories are no longer of use.

8. The rates and taxes are an increasing burden and on such a large building the total amounts to a very considerable sum £2,319, whilst the repairs, fuel and light and general upkeep, are together out of all proportion to the actual necessities of the examinations.

9. It is estimated that if a fair amount can be obtained by the sale of the Examination Hall, a smaller building, suitable for the examinations, can be erected elsewhere, not only at a very

considerable saving to the Royal Colleges in annual expenses, but will enable each College to claim a return of a capital sum which should not be less than £10,000, and may be as much as £15,000.

10. It has been supposed that the present Examination Hall could be made a remunerative investment by letting off larger portions of the building, but it is doubtful, owing to the wasteful planning of the staircases, corridors, and rooms, whether, even under the best conditions, a sufficient income could be obtained in this way to render the annual expenditure of the Colleges at all in proportion to the necessities of the examinations and, as has already been pointed out, it would be necessary for the Royal Colleges to expend further capital and to materially reduce the accommodation for examinations in order to obtain an improved income from lettings.

11. The main point to be determined is the wisdom of continuing to hold a large block of buildings far in excess of the requirements, in which the capital of the two Royal Colleges is locked up at a most unremunerative rate of interest.

Proceedings of Censors' Board.

With the very large section of the profession with which the College is concerned, it may be congratulated on the very small number of cases of professional misconduct with which it has to deal.

An appeal for reinstatement, in the case of a former Licentiate whose licence was withdrawn by the College in January, 1905, has been, on the recommendation of the Censors' Board, granted, and the licence restored to him. In the course of the College year one licence has been withdrawn, on the grounds of adultery with a married woman, proved in Court of Law, and found by the Censors' Board to have been committed whilst in professional relationship with the woman as her medical attendant.

Having recorded the various matters of interest which occurred in the past year, and having in doing so, I fear, too

heavily taxed your time and patience, I must conclude by expressing my grateful sense of the kindness and courteous consideration of the Fellows, which has rendered my task of presiding over this College so easy and pleasant. My especial acknowledgments are due to the Members of the Censors' Board and of the Council of the College, and to the Treasurer, Registrar, and the other officers of the Collège. To the logical mind and untiring industry and watchfulness of the Registrar, the College is indeed indebted for the orderly and successful conduct of its business. This is also a fitting time to recognise, on my own part and on that of the College, the very important and often very arduous labours of the many committees appointed from time to time, and particularly of the Committee of Management, presided over by Dr. Frederick Taylor.

